A. T. ATKINSON. ROBERT CRIEVE. Office, Gasette Building, Merchant St. f up stairs,

THE SAMOAN ISLANDS.

BY THE MARQUES OF TEAMO.

PART IV. The language of the Samoan bespeaks Malayan extraction, many words in the two languages being identical; the alphabet containing fourteen letters, a, c, i, o, u, f, g, l, m, n, p, s, t, v. The foreign letters h, k and v are introduced in the writing of proper foreign names, as Amerika for America. In speaking the voice is raised, the emphasis falling on the last word of each sentence. A stranger in Sa-mos might suppose there were two languages. Not so, but there are delicate terms, expressive of respect, used in speaking to a chiefthough a chief never uses them in speaking of himself. It is claimed by persons long resident in South Sea Islands, that the Samoan is the only Polynesian language having a word to express thanks or gratitude, "faa-afetae." The language is allegorical, and generally oriental in style. Samoun has become a written language through the labors of missionaries among them. Father Villet, French Catholic Priest, and Dr. Pratt, of the London Missionary Society, have made a dictionary and a grammar, and have translated the Bible, Datechism and other books for religious in-

Of the early lastory of Samos nothing is definitely known. There are native traditions of their race, but they are exceedingly vague, but ruins in the interior of the Islands, and the roads and the causeways of Savaii, are a the radis and the causeways of Savan, are a scaled book to the natives; and to the question, "Who built thom?" the quick answer is this: "The evil or good spirits." These islands were first discovered by the

Dutch "three ships expedition," commanded by Rosenvein, in 1772. La Perouse touched t the island of Tutnila in 1787. One of his flicers, M. De Laugle, and boat's crew, were killed by the natives on the north shore of the sland; a small estuary still retains the name, From this circumstance the relands were avoided by navigators, and the nativen looked upon as exceedingly savage and treacherous. Roy. John Williams, an English missionary, found in 1830, that the natives knew something of Christianity, and readily accepted it. This knowledge evidently came from the rule teachings or influence of staway sailers, as the natives still speak of he white men among them long before the arrival of missionaries. From a period of nine years, from 1810 to 1858, a bloody civil strife aged between the different districts of Upolu and the small island of Manono, the latter being the ally of "Anna" the western district of pole, and arrayed against "Atua" and the Tua Masaga" The horrors of this war are still fresh in the minds of the people. The scent war in 1876, was not so sanguinary or

destructive of property. I \$30 Commodore Wilkes gave to the grou a paralletion of fifty-six thousand six hundred This would only be an approximation to the exact number. A correct census taken in 1883 gave a population of thirty-four thousand six hundred and three. In 1869 the religious consus taken was as follows:

The raligions were divided as follows: herents of London Missionary Society viegan Church

The census shows a decrease in the population of five hundred for from 1860 to 1883. The recout war which lasted two years ay account for this decrease, as society and ulies were disrupted. It is estimated that there has been an increase of native popula tion in the last year of about one hundred and

The performance of the marriage ceremon y matives is certainly objectionable and saily opposed by the Roman Catholic clergy, ven this is better however than the original an custom where the consent of the relatives of both parties and the presentation of th not to insure it again again is turn bring "fine mats to the family of the groom." Until recently the marriage of a chief's daughter, especially the maid of a vil-lage was an occasion of great ceremony, and so socred was virtue esteemed in a female that the maid, in the presence of great chiefs and the families of both parties, was compelled to submit to a public, unnatural and equivocal. physical test of virginity. This barbarous custom to some extent still prevails, and so a part of unwritten history of the Samoans, is too well known to admit of doubt. The general sobriety of the natives, and their appre-ciations of the knowledge introduced by the whites, add greatly to their tractability and argue well for their future advancement. Present indications are that These people will soon eccupy a much higher place in the scale of minor nations than most of the Polynesian islanders. With them Sunday is a day of rest and religious devotion. The great day, Tatele and Tatelega are the first and the second days of "palolo" in the last of October. The palolo is a sen-worm which appears on two uccessive days in every year in some of the penings of the reefs appearing at daylight and disappearing with the rising of the sun. these marine worms are eighteen to twenty inches in length are highly esteemed for food by the natives and are taken in vast quantities by them. They seem to understand the precise day when they will appear claiming tha robber grabs leave the interior and seek th

salt water. Before dawn every native is asti Every vessel capable of bearing man, woma or child is brought into requisition and the reef passages at dawn of day are alive wit water-crafts and noisy with exuberant life. The entire Samoan group (excepting out-lying islets, or rocks before mentioned) has ac conting to Wilke's survey a superficial area of of sixteen hundred and fifty square miles, vin

The height of mountains and depth of val leys, with general average of physical struc-ture, make an astronomical survey uncertain The harbor of 'Apia' in Upolu is similiar to that of Honolulu, the anchorages from six to fourteen fathoms of water. The removal of a few coral rocks poir the shore would greatly add harbor facilities while a hulf mile of wharves could be built, which, with the seaa secure and valuable depot as well as a gen-eral maritime resort. The richness of the soil, the varied resources capable of supporting a large population, and its central position mak Apia the natural cutrepot for Samoa. Fo port and shipping industry labor could be aggregated and supported. The surroundin country is of greater area and general ad-aptability than that of any other port of the group; the climate beautiful and the port as nearly on the commercial track between San other point of the group. The white popula-tion of Apia number about one hundred and eighty, chiefly German, English and American. It is the residence of the English, American and German Consul and of the Roma Catholic Bishop Monsigner Lamaze. It is the headquarters for the Pacific Islands of the commercial house of Hambourg. The foreign residents are mostly traders from the Colonies with small stores and fiquor rooms, trading with natives and living generally useless lives, having no sympathy with the natives and for selfish purposes ever prepared to foment trouble between the different districts; in time of war furnishing them arms ammunition an purchasing valuable tracts of lands at paltr prices from irresponsible claimants or men

prices from irresponsible claimants or mem-bers of rivel families. The trade of Samoa is wirtually controlled by the German house of Hambourg represented at Apia by Mr. Veber, a very kind and intelligent man. The exports are cotton and copra. The copra trade is considerable and growing into larger proportions. Copra is the mean of fruit of the ripe occan-nut which is gathered and prepared by the natives. It is shipped to Europe where it meets a ready sale. The oil en-lers largely is the manufacture of the best candies. The copra in European markets is quoted at about \$35 per ton and is purchased from the natives at about three cents in trade, been introduced by the same German firm "Belivian silver coin" "cast iron" worth about 73 cents to the dollar which passes current at par. In this trade Mr. Webber employ a number of first class vessels. Many of then make the outward passage in ballast return-ing lades. In fifty-five days that I was in Apin elever vessels of 5520 tons receive Apia eleven vessors of 35.00 tons received freight. In this proportion we chould have a yearly export of 34,775 tons, with a home value of \$5,303,635. In the town of Apia the Roman Catholic mission, French, own a

marram

Gazette.

VOL. XXI.--No. 3.1

HONOLULU, TUESDAY, JANUARY 19. 1886.

consand acres of land immediately back of the settlement. Much of it is under a high degree of cultivation. The bishop has selected and upon the mountain slopes, where it is a "College" and already done some work for the growing of coffee.

Upolu is divided into three great districts, the castern end of the island known as Atua,

Formerly each of the recent war was atta, the middle Tanmasage, and the western Aana. Formerly each of these great districts was controlled by a King Tue or Tue Atua, etc.

The theater of the recent war was at and about Apia, the town and property of the whites being neutral ground. The Tui Mas-sga being invaded by Atua. Savaii and Ma-noto the former having for an ally the district of Anna which a revolting subdistrict of Atua. The desire-for some fixed and settled form of government has been paramount in the minds

of the people.

The Samoan Government consists of the "Taimua" and "Pule, "the former comprising seven chiefs not among the greatest but known for their ability; the Pale, four chiefs of higher graite, who crown the edifice. The Taimus and Pale appoint local magistrates for districts from among the people over whom they are to have jurisdiction. In Apia the local magistrate is appointed by the American, English and German consuls. The Government is to be sustained by a "per capita" tax. With their resources this will be triffing and cheerfully paid. But they know nothing of they may display some wiedom, but they all must tail in practice. They fully realize that

me government must aid them With a population about one-third less than the Hawaiian Islands, vastly greater natura resources, and amiable and cractable people and upon the track of a growing trade betwe English speaking people, Sanna under guid-ange and protection, would develop and con-centrate a great trade. To the touch of industry its harbors would be busy marts, its tim-ber utilized and its valleys and mountain slopes teeming with native products.

To present a minute and faithful physica lescription of the islands, an exact and inte olitical system, with a somewhat brief ac haracteristics of the people, with the few facilities at hand for such a work, I have don-the best possible under the circumstances, reserving fuller history of Samoa until after had given such a view of my voyage. With-out needless amplifications or argument I have

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